

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a stabilizer composition comprising

- a) at least one sterically hindered phenol,
- b) at least one phosphorus-containing secondary antioxidant, and
- c) at least one tocopherol compound

wherein the weight ratio of component (a) to component (b) is from 2:1 to 1:4 and the weight ratio of component (a) to component (c) is from 2:1 to 10:1

for the stabilization of polyethylene-based thermoplastic polymers against degradation, crosslinking and/or discoloration due to the exposure to heat or light, especially in the presence of oxygen. A further aspect of the present invention is a masterbatch composition comprising the afore-said stabilizer composition. A process for producing the stabilizer composition is similarly an object of the invention. The present invention also provides a method for enhancing the processing stability of polyethylene-based thermoplastic polymers comprising incorporating therein at any convenient stage of the processing a stabilizing quantity of the afore-mentioned stabilizer composition. The invention further embraces a stabilized polyethylene-based thermoplastic polymer and any article manufactured therefrom.